Claims
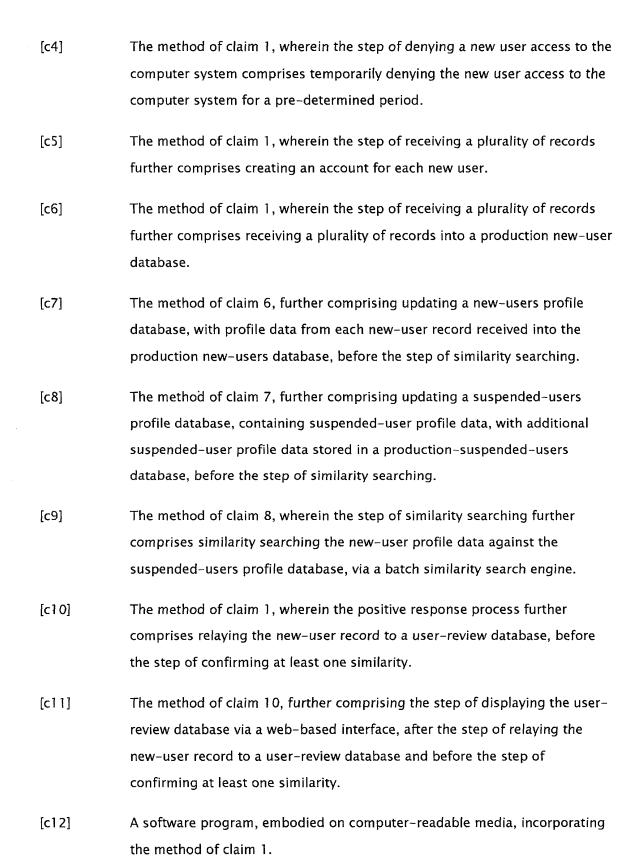
[c1]   A method for verifying the identities of new users of a computer system, using batch similarity searching, comprising:

a. receiving a plurality of records, each record containing profile data input by a new user;

b. similarity searching the profile data of each record against suspended-users profile data;

c. receiving a similarity search result set;

d. determining, for each record, whether a positive match or a negative match exists between the profile data of the record and the suspended-users profile data;

e. allowing a new user to access the computer system, where a negative match is determined between the record of the new user and the suspended-users profile data; and

f. forwarding the record of a new user to a review process, where a positive match is determined between the record of the new user and the suspended-users profile data, the review process comprising:

i. confirming whether the positive match exists between the profile data of the record and the suspended-users profile data;

ii. allowing the new user to access the computer system, where the positive match is not confirmed; and

iii. denying the new user access to the computer system, where the positive match is confirmed.

[c2]   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining a positive or negative match further comprises

assigning a match score to each similarity search result set; and

comparing the match score to a pre-determined match tolerance level.

[c3]   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of denying a new user access to the computer system comprises permanently denying the new user access to the computer system.

[c4]   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of denying a new user access to the computer system comprises temporarily denying the new user access to the computer system for a pre-determined period.

[c5]   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a plurality of records further comprises creating an account for each new user.

[c6]   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a plurality of records further comprises receiving a plurality of records into a production new-user database.

[c7]   The method of claim 6, further comprising updating a new-users profile database, with profile data from each new-user record received into the production new-users database, before the step of similarity searching.

[c8]   The method of claim 7, further comprising updating a suspended-users profile database, containing suspended-user profile data, with additional suspended-user profile data stored in a production-suspended-users database, before the step of similarity searching.

[c9]   The method of claim 8, wherein the step of similarity searching further comprises similarity searching the new-user profile data against the suspended-users profile database, via a batch similarity search engine.

[c10]   The method of claim 1, wherein the positive response process further comprises relaying the new-user record to a user-review database, before the step of confirming at least one similarity.

[c11]   The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of displaying the user-review database via a web-based interface, after the step of relaying the new-user record to a user-review database and before the step of confirming at least one similarity.

[c12]   A software program, embodied on computer-readable media, incorporating the method of claim 1.

[c13]   A method for verifying identities of new users of a computer system, using batch similarity searching, comprising:

a. receiving a plurality of records into a production new-user database, each record comprising profile data input by a new user;

b. updating a new-users profile database, with profile data from each record received into the production new-users database;

c. updating a suspended-users profile database, containing suspended-user profile data, with additional suspended-user profile data stored in a production-suspended-users database;

d. relaying the new-user profile data from the new-user profile database to a batch similarity search engine;

e. similarity searching the new-user profile data against the suspended-users profile database, via the batch similarity search engine;

f. receiving at least one similarity search result set;

g. determining, for each record, whether a positive match or a negative match exists between the profile data of the record and the suspended-users profile data;

h. allowing a new user to access the computer system, where a negative match is determined between the record of the new user and the suspended-users profile data; and

i. forwarding the record of a new user to a review process, where a positive match is determined between the record of the new user and the suspended-users profile data, the review process comprising:

i. confirming whether the positive match exists between the profile data of the record and the suspended-users profile data;

ii. allowing the new user to access the computer system, where the positive match is not confirmed; and

iii. denying the new user access to the computer system, and forwarding the profile data from the new-user record to the production suspended-users database, where the positive match is confirmed.

[c14]

The method of claim 13, wherein the step of receiving a plurality of new-

user records into a production new-user database further comprises creating an account for each new user.

[c15]   The method of claim 13, wherein the step of updating the new-users profile database further comprises importing the production new-users database into the new-users profile database.

[c16]   The method of claim 13, wherein the step of updating the suspended-users profile database further comprises importing the production suspended-users database into the suspended -users profile database.

[c17]   The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of formulating the new-user profile data into at least one search command, after the step of updating the new-users profile database and before the step of similarity searching.

[c18]   The method of claim 13, wherein the step of determining a positive or negative match further comprises
assigning a match score to each similarity search result set; and
comparing the match score to a pre-determined match tolerance level.

[c19]   The method of claim 13, wherein a similarity search result set is received for each new-user record searched.

[c20]   The method of claim 13, wherein one similarity search result set is received for all new-user records searched.

[c21]   The method of claim 13, wherein the positive response process further comprises relaying the new-user record to a user-review database, before the step of confirming at least one similarity.

[c22]   The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of displaying the user-review database via a web-based interface, after the step of relaying the new-user record to a user-review database and before the step of confirming at least one similarity.

[c23]   The method of claim 13, wherein the step of denying a new user access to the computer system comprises permanently denying the new user access to the computer system.

[c24]   The method of claim 13, wherein the step of denying a new user access to the computer system comprises temporarily denying the new user access to the computer system for a pre-determined period.

[c25]   A software program, embodied on computer-readable media, incorporating the method of claim 13.

[c26]   A system for verifying identities of new users of a computer system, using batch similarity searching, comprising:

means for receiving records from a plurality of new users;

means for extracting new-user profile data from each record;

means for similarity searching the new-user profile data against suspended-users profile data;

means for receiving similarity search results sets;

means for determining whether a positive match or a negative match exists between the new-user profile data of each record and the suspended-users profile data;

means for allowing a new user to access the computer system, where a negative match exists; and

means for reviewing the record of a new user, where a positive match exists between the record and suspended-users profile data, comprising:

means for confirming whether the positive match exists between the record and suspended-users profile data;

means for allowing the new user to access the computer system, where the positive match is not confirmed; and

means for denying the new user access to the computer system, where the positive match is confirmed.